U.S. Application No.: 10/780,677

REMARKS

In the present Amendment, the specification has been amended for clarity. Specifically, the specification has been amended at page 4, line 2 from the bottom, to replace "the adhesive layer is difficult to cause redissolution" with "redissolution of the adhesive layer becomes difficult."

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 2. Claim 2 has been canceled, accordingly.

Claim 5 has been amended to improve its form. These amendments are not to be deemed to narrow the scope of the claim.

No new matter has been added and entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 1 and 3-5 will be all the claims pending in the application.

I. Election/Restrictions

Applicants affirm the election of Group I, claims 1-3 and 5.

II. Response to Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

a. In Paragraph No. 8 of the Office Action, claims 1, 3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly lacking enablement.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present claims are in compliance with the enablement requirement. Without conceding that the rejection is proper, Applicants have amended claim 1, from which claims 3 and 5 depend, to recite an RA of the partially imidated

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polyamic acid of 0.1-5.0 (i.e., the subject matter of claim 2). Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

In Paragraph No. 9 of the Office Action, claims 1, 3 and 5 are rejected under 35 b. U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present claims are in compliance with the written description requirement.

The present claims recite a method of forming a composite insulating layer comprising specific steps, each of which is sufficiently described in the present specification. On the other hand, the language, which the Examiner considers to be unclear, is not contained in the claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of the claims is improper and should be withdrawn.

In addition, Applicants have amended the specification at page 4, line 2 from the bottom, to replace "the adhesive layer is difficult to cause redissolution" with "redissolution of the adhesive layer becomes difficult," for clarity.

III. Response to Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In Paragraph 11 of the Office Action, claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by the admitted prior art. Further, in Paragraph No. 12 of the Office

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Action, claims 1, 3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by EP 1327517 ("EP '517").

Applicants respectfully submit that the present claims are novel over the cited references. As described above, Applicants have amended claim 1, from which claims 3 and 5 depend, to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 2. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections.

IV. Response to Provisional Double Patenting Rejection

In Paragraph No. 14 of the Office Action, claims 1 and 3 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims 4 and 5 of copending Application No. 10/330,301 ("the '301 application").

Applicants respectfully submit that the present claims are patentable over claims 4 and 5 of the '301 application. As described above, Applicants have amended claim 1, from which claim 3 depends, to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 2. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the provisional rejection.

V. Response to Provisional Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

In Paragraph No. 15 of the Office Action, claims 1, 3 and 5 are provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over the '301 application.

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Applicants respectfully submit that the present claims are patentable over the '301 application. As described above, Applicants have amended claim 1, from which claims 3 and 5 depend, to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 2. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the provisional rejection.

VI. Response to Claim Objection

In Paragraph no. 16 of the Office Action, claim 2 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

Applicants respectfully submit that the objection is most because claim 2 has been canceled. It should be noted that Applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 2.

VII. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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